

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /087 W
-----201426Z 025096 /45

R 201201Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4189
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMCONSUL ASMARA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 1331

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, SU, ET
SUBJECT: SUDANESE/ETHIOPIAN CONFRONTATION

1. FONOFF U/SEC OSMAN ASKED AMBASSADOR APRIL 20 WHETHER WE HAD RECEIVED REPORT OF RECENT DIRG-LEVEL MEETING ADDIS IN WHICH QUESTION EPMG BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH USG, EGYPT AND SUDAN HAD COME UP. ACCORDING TO SUDANESE REPORT, MENGISTU DECIDED AGAINST BREAKS IN RELATIONS BUT IN FAVOR OF REDUCING STAFFS AT BOTH EGYPTIAN AND USG EMBASSIES, PARTICULARLY ON MILITARY SIDE. OSMAN COMMENTED IT WOULD BE HARD CUT STAFF AT SUDANESE EMBASSY SINCE LATTER ALREADY MINIMAL. AMBASSADOR REPLIED WE HAD SEEN SOMEWHAT SIMILAR REPORT. OSMAN INDICATED HE NOT PARTICULARLY ALARMED RE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS BUT CONFIRMED EPMG MESSAGE TO SUDANESE EMBASSY (PARA 3 ADDIS 2292) ALREADY RECEIVED HERE.

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2. IN GENERAL DISCUSSION SUDANESE/ETHIOPIAN CONFRONTATION OSMAN CALLED ATTENTION TO FONMIN KHALID'S RECENT STATEMENTS IN LONDON AND CONFIRMED THESE REPRESENTED LATEST SUDAN GOVT VIEWS (SEE PARA 3).

3. ACCORDING SUDAN NEWS AGENCY, KHALID TOLD PRESS IN LONDON APRIL 18 THAT SUDAN SUPPORTS LEGITIMATE

RIGHTS OF ERITREANS TO ATTAIN SATISFACTORY SOLUTION,
NOTING ERITREAN ISSUE HAS BEEN ON U. N. AGENDA IN PAST
AND IS THUS NOT RPT NOT "MERE LOCAL ISSUE".
KHALID ALSO SAID GOS HAD NO INTENTION ENGAGING IN ANY
CONFRONTATION WITH ETHIOPIA.

4. COMMENT: DESPITE RELAXED ATTITUDE OFFICIAL
CIRCLES, EMBASSY BEGINNING HEAR REPORTS THAT SUDANESE
PUBLIC OPINION BECOMING SOMEWHAT TROUBLED BY DURATION AND
DEPTH SUDANESE/ETHIOPIAN CONFRONTATION. KHALID'S
REMARKS SUGGEST SUDAN UNINTERESTED IN FURTHER EXCERBATING
SITUATION BUT THEY WOULD HARDLY APPEAR SUFFICIENT PROMPT
RESPONSIVE CHORD FROM MENGISTU REGIME.
BREWER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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